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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1315 W. 4th Avenue • Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018 • (509) 735-7581

February 27, 1998

Mr. James E. Rasmussen
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

Re: Tritium Monitoring in Groundwater for the 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has reviewed the *Tritium Monitoring in Groundwater and Evaluation of Model Predications for the Hanford Site 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility (PNNL-11665/UC-502)* submitted by the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) to fulfill the requirements in the 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF) discharge permit ST 4500, section S7.B. Ecology appreciates the recent meeting we had with USDOE to discuss this report and Ecology considers the report acceptable to fulfill the first required evaluation and model update for Tritium discharged by ETF.

The recommendations in the report seem sound at this time. As required by the permit and as recommended in the report, the Tritium plume from ETF will need continuing monitoring. If changes from the expected occur, then further evaluations, model updates, and even new monitoring wells may be required. Ecology has recently expressed concerns with the variety of groundwater modeling that has been done on the Hanford Site. Ecology is encouraged that this effort was coordinated with other site wide modeling and Ecology is still working with USDOE to come to a common understanding and consistent approach to all modeling of groundwater at Hanford.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (509) 736-3047.

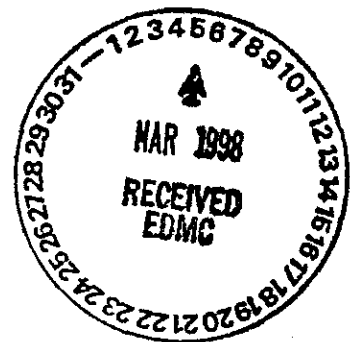
Sincerely,

David S. Dougherty, P.E.
ETF Discharge Permit Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

DD:ch

cc: Greg Sinton, USDOE
Alex Teimouri, USDOE
Don Flyckt, WMH
Patrick Mohondro, WMH
Russell Jim, YIN
Mary Lou Blazek, ODOE

J.R. Wilkinson, CTUIR
Donna Powaukee, NPT
Administrative Record:
Liquid Effluents Consent Order



bcc: Dib Goswami
Steve Skurla

Central Files: WQ/State Waste Discharge Permits/ST4500/Hydrogeology Reports